

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication system enabling communications between a subscriber and a station, comprising:

5 a delivery device installed on a station side, said delivery device including delivery means for controlling delivery of a media stream, accounting control means for performing accounting control based on media quality information transmitted from a subscriber side, and authentication means for authenticating a device which is to  
10 receive the media stream; and

a terminal device installed on the subscriber side, said terminal device including receiving means for controlling reception of the media stream, connection information management means for managing connection  
15 information for specifying the media stream, and media quality measurement control means for controlling measurement of media quality of the specified media stream, generating the media quality information and transmitting the generated media quality information to the station.

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2. The communication system according to claim 1, wherein said media quality measurement control means performs at least one of first media quality measurement control in which a packet with a loss of data is detected by  
25 continuity of packets, and second media quality measurement control in which a degradation index of a media unit is calculated.

3. The communication system according to claim 2,  
wherein said delivery device further includes lost data  
extracting means for the first media quality measurement  
5 control, said lost data extracting means extracting lost  
data from a media stream content, with reference to the  
media quality information, and transmitting lost data  
information to the terminal device.

10 4. The communication system according to claim 3,  
wherein said terminal device further includes quality  
recovery means for receiving the lost data information and  
recovering quality of the media stream.

15 5. The communication system according to claim 2,  
wherein said media quality measurement control means  
calculates the degradation index of each of subunits into  
which the media unit is divided, to perform the second media  
quality measurement control.

20 6. The communication system according to claim 2,  
wherein said media quality measurement control means  
calculates the degradation index based on a degree of  
influence of error propagation on the media unit, to perform  
25 the second media quality measurement control.

7. The communication system according to claim 2,

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wherein said media quality measurement control means transmits the degradation index and position information of a degraded media unit to the delivery device as the media quality information, to perform the second media quality measurement control.

8. The communication system according to claim 7, wherein said accounting control means causes a degree of importance of the degraded media unit to be reflected in the accounting control, with reference to the received position information.

9. A delivery device for providing a subscriber with information, comprising:

15 delivery means for controlling delivery of a media stream;

accounting control means for performing accounting control based on media quality information transmitted from the subscriber side; and

20 authentication means for authenticating a device which is to receive the media stream.

10. A terminal device for receiving information from a station, comprising:

25 receiving means for controlling reception of a delivered media stream;

connection information management means for

managing connection information for specifying the media stream; and

media quality measurement control means for  
controlling measurement of media quality of the specified  
5 media stream, generating media quality information and  
transmitting the media quality information to the station.

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